

# State Supreme Court rules in favor of PUD

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OKANOGAN — The state Supreme Court has affirmed the Okanogan County Public Utility District's ability to build a transmission line across state land.

The high court ruling was released Thursday morning.

The decision paves the way for the utility to exercise eminent domain to build the Pateros-to-Twisp transmission line across state Department of natural Resources land in Watson Draw.

"We were pretty confident going in," utility General Manager John Grubich said.

The Supreme Court affirmed an Okanogan County Superior Court decision.

Next up will be setting a value so the utility can lease the land and then build the transmission line.